

# **Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Report on States’ Priorities for Child Care Services: Fiscal Year 2020**

Updated October 2021



ADMINISTRATION FOR  
**CHILDREN & FAMILIES**

## **BACKGROUND**

The Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) is the primary federal funding source dedicated to providing child care assistance to families with low-incomes. As a block grant, CCDF gives funding to states, territories, and tribes to provide child care subsidies through vouchers or certificates to families with low incomes, and grants and contracts with providers in some states. CCDF provides access to child care services for working families with low incomes, so parents can work, attend school, or enroll in training. Additionally, CCDF promotes the healthy development of children by improving the quality of early learning and school-age experiences for both subsidized and unsubsidized children. Within the federal regulations, lead agencies administering CCDF decide how to administer the CCDF subsidy programs. States determine payment rates for child care providers, copayment amounts for families, specific eligibility requirements, and have some flexibilities on how to prioritize CCDF services.

An estimated 1.9 million children under the age of 13 received child care subsidies through CCDF or related government funding streams in an average month in fiscal year (FY) 2017 (most recent data), which is equivalent to 14 percent of all children eligible under federal rules and 22 percent of all children eligible under state rules.<sup>1</sup> Under federal eligibility rules, 13.5 million children were eligible for child care subsidies in an average month in FY 2017, which represents 25 percent of the total 53.1 million children under the age of 13. In addition, 8.7 million children were eligible for subsidies under state eligibility rules that represents 16 percent of the total 53.1 million children in the age range served by CCDF, and 65 percent of children eligible under federal rules.

CCDF administrative data, including monthly case-level data reported on the ACF-801, provides information about the characteristics (including income) of families receiving a child care subsidy. Preliminary FY 2018 ACF-801 CCDF administrative data (most recent year available) indicates that approximately 1.32 million children and 813,000 families per month received CCDF child care assistance.<sup>2</sup> The CCDF subsidy program emphasizes parental choice; therefore, children are cared for in a wide variety of settings.<sup>3</sup> Nationally, in FY 2018<sup>4</sup>:

- 73 percent of children receiving subsidies were cared for in center-based care.
- 20 percent of children receiving CCDF assistance were cared for in family child care homes.
- 2 percent of children were cared for in the child's own home.
- The data was not reported or was invalid for 4 percent.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://aspe.hhs.gov/system/files/pdf/264341/CY2017-Child-Care-Subsidy-Eligibility.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/data/fy-2018-preliminary-data-table-1-average-monthly-adjusted-number-families-and-children>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/data/fy-2018-preliminary-data-table-3-average-monthly-percentages-children-served-types-care>.

<sup>4</sup> Total does not equal 100 percent because of rounding.

## **DISCUSSION**

Section 658E(c)(3)(B)(ii)(I) of the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act<sup>5</sup> requires ACF to issue an annual report “that contains a determination about whether each state uses amounts provided for the fiscal year under this subchapter in accordance with the priority for services.” The statutory priorities for service categories are: 1) children of families with very low incomes (taking into account family size), and 2) children with special needs. To reflect the focus on serving children experiencing homelessness included in Section 658E(c)(3)(B)(i) of the CCDBG Act,<sup>6</sup> the CCDF final regulations added serving children experiencing homelessness as a third priority for services category at 45 CFR 98.46(a)(3)<sup>7</sup>. The Act requires ACF to impose a penalty on lead agencies that fail to meet these priority services requirements. In accordance with the Act, CCDF regulations at 45 CFR 98.92(b)(3) require a penalty of five percent of a lead agency’s CCDF discretionary award be withheld for any fiscal year that the Secretary determines the lead agency has failed to give priority in accordance with the priority of services provisions at 45 CFR 98.46.

This report includes analysis of ACF-801 CCDF administrative data and summary information from FY 2019- 2021 CCDF state plans<sup>8</sup>. The administrative data forms were updated in FY 2016 to reflect new reporting requirements related to priority for services categories. Data for some of these elements is still limited, as states continue to improve the quality and completeness of these reporting categories.

### **Prioritizing services for children of families with very low incomes**

Of the families served by CCDF in FY 2018, 41 percent were below the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), or \$20,780 for a family of three; 27 percent had incomes between 100 percent and 150 percent of the FPL; and 15 percent had incomes above 150 percent of the FPL.<sup>9</sup> The remaining families had invalid or unreported data (8 percent), or a child as only recipient (8 percent). Additionally, among families receiving CCDF assistance with reported income in FY 2018, approximately 75 percent of them paid a copayment; the remaining 25 percent of the families with reported income had \$0 copay. For families that were assessed a copayment, the average copayment was 7 percent of family income.

In FY 2018, approximately 12 percent of families that receive CCDF assistance reported income from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).<sup>10</sup> Most states give first priority for child care assistance to families currently receiving, at-risk of receiving, or transitioning off

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<sup>5</sup> 42 U.S.C. §9858c(c)(3)(B)(ii)(I)

<sup>6</sup> 42 U.S.C. § 9858c(c)(3)(B)(i)

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/09/30/2016-22986/child-care-and-development-fund-ccdf-program>.

<sup>8</sup> Links to approved FY 2019-2021 CCDF State Plans are available at <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/form/approved-ccdf-plans-fy-2019-2021>.

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/fact-sheet/characteristics-families-served-child-care-and-development-fund-ccdf-based>.

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/data/fy-2018-preliminary-data-table-16-average-monthly-percent-families-reporting-income-tanf>.

TANF. Families receiving CCDF assistance also reported income from Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (36 percent) and Housing (3 percent).

Lead agencies determine the definition of “very low income” for the purposes of providing priority of child care services. Analysis of FY 2019-2021 CCDF Plans shows that the definition of families with very low incomes (considering family size) varies across states.

- Nineteen states defined families with very low family incomes as families who are eligible for or received assistance under the TANF program.
- Seventeen states define families with very low incomes as family with incomes at or below 100% of the FPL.
- Eight states use thresholds above the 100 percent of the FPL to define families with very low incomes.
- Six states use thresholds at or below 60 percent of their State Median Income (SMI) to define families with very low incomes.
- Six states use other mechanisms to define families with very low incomes. For example, states may not have specific definitions in their CCDF plans for families with very low family incomes, but describe how they provide priority of services to children of families with very low incomes.

Nationally, 20 percent of children ages 0-12 in the general population were below poverty as compared to 54 percent of children ages 0-12 who received CCDF assistance were below poverty. This means the proportion of children below poverty is higher among children receiving CCDF services compared to the general population. This pattern holds in every state, suggesting that all states are prioritizing CCDF services for children of families with very low incomes. See **Appendix A** for state-by-state data.

Lead agencies use multiple strategies to prioritize services for children of families with very low incomes. According to the FY 2019-2021 CCDF State Plans:

- Twenty-five states prioritize enrollment for children of families with low incomes.
- Twenty-seven states including the District of Columbia serve children of families with very low incomes without placing them on wait lists.
- Twenty-nine states waive co-payments for children of families with very low incomes.
- Seven states provide a higher payment rate to providers caring for children of families with very low incomes.
- Five states use grants or contracts to reserve slots for children of families with very low incomes.

### **Prioritizing children with special needs**

States must prioritize child care services for children with special needs. The term “child with special needs” is not defined in the CCDBG Act or CCDF regulations. Therefore, states have the flexibility to define “child with special needs.” They report the definition in their CCDF state plans. Many states include “child with a disability” in their definition of “child with special needs.” The Act does define “child with a disability.” States are not required to report if a child

has special needs as part of the ACF-801 administrative data, but the state must report if a child has a disability as defined in the Act. **Appendix B** provides data on the percent of children served that have a disability.

An analysis of FY 2019-2021 CCDF Plan information shows that the definition of children with special needs for purposes of prioritizing services varies across states.

- Fourteen states use parts of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) definitions to define children with special needs.
- Fourteen states define children with special needs as children diagnosed by a physician or other licensed medical professionals.
- Three states use supplemental security income (SSI) definitions of children with disability to define children with special needs.
- Sixteen states use their own state definition of children with disability to define children with special needs including child with a disability or unable to care for themselves. These states may define children with special needs as children at risk of or receiving protective services or foster care services.

States use a variety of approaches to prioritize services for children with special needs.

- Twenty-eight states prioritize enrollment for children with special needs.
- Twenty-six states provide higher payment rates to providers that care for children with special needs.
- Twenty-four states do not waitlist children with special needs.
- Six states waive co-payments for parents of children with special needs.
- Three states use grants or contracts to reserve slots for children with special needs.

### Prioritizing children experiencing homelessness

Federal rules include children experiencing homelessness on the list of categories for which states must provide priority for services to ensure that the most vulnerable families receive CCDF assistance. Lead agencies must provide priority of services to children experiencing homelessness and use the definition of “homeless” applicable to Head Start and school programs from section 725 of Subtitle VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Act.<sup>11</sup> The McKinney-Vento Act’s definition specifically includes children living in emergency shelters, motels, hotels, trailer parks, cars, parks, public spaces, or abandoned buildings, and those sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason.<sup>12</sup>

States must demonstrate in their CCDF plans how they offer priority for services to children experiencing homelessness. States have flexibility on how they provide such priority of services to children experiencing homelessness in their service areas. For instance, states may prioritize

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<sup>11</sup> 42 U.S.C. §11434a.

<sup>12</sup> Understanding the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act’s Definition of “Homeless”  
[https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/public/understanding-federal-definitions-3-12-18\\_508\\_0.pdf](https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/public/understanding-federal-definitions-3-12-18_508_0.pdf)

enrollment services, waive co-payment fees, and pay higher rates for access to higher-quality care, or use grants or contracts to reserve slots for children experiencing homelessness.

States are required to report whether a family receiving CCDF assistance is experiencing homelessness on the ACF-801 administrative data report, and, as of FY 2018, most states (41) reported homelessness status for all families receiving CCDF assistance. FY 2018 preliminary data in **Appendix C** shows a wide range of variation across states regarding the proportion of children experiencing homelessness who are receiving CCDF services. Of the 41 states reporting homelessness status for all families receiving subsidies, 18 reported serving 0 percent (or a number that rounded to zero) of children experiencing homelessness in their CCDF programs. The other 23 states reported between 1 percent and 10 percent of children they served were experiencing homelessness.

States continue to establish or expand their data collection procedures to collect accurate data on the percent of families they serve who are experiencing homelessness. Homeless status is self-reported by the family at the time of application in most cases. Parents or guardians answering questions may not know the state's definition, or if the state does not provide meaningful and specific prompts at the time of application, parents may not correctly report the information. This may also be compounded by a reluctance to report because of stigma. Since families are eligible for up to 12 months of child care assistance, they are not required to report short-term changes in their living situations, if it does not affect their eligibility (for example, over 85 percent of state median income). If families report their homeless status only once, instead of whenever their homeless status changes, this could mean that the true incidence of homelessness may be under-reported.

In addition to reporting on the ACF-801, states must report in their CCDF plans how they prioritize services for children experiencing homelessness. An analysis of the FY 2019-2021 CCDF plans shows states are making progress in meeting this new priority of services requirement.

- Thirty-two states have policies in place to prioritize enrollment for children experiencing homelessness.
- Twenty-nine states do not place children experiencing homelessness on a waitlist.
- Sixteen states have policies in place to waive copayments for children experiencing homelessness.
- Six states pay higher rates to providers that care for children experiencing homelessness.
- Six states use grants or contracts reserve child care slots for children experiencing homelessness.

## **CONCLUSION**

The CCDBG Act requires OCC to report on states compliance with the provisions related to priorities of services to children in families with very low incomes and children with special needs. OCC is pleased to report that all states are prioritizing CCDF assistance to families with very low incomes, children with special needs, and children experiencing homelessness as reported in the FY 2019-2021 CCDF Plans. OCC will continue to track state priorities data and

provide more complete information in the next annual report, which is due on September 30, 2021 as required by the CCDBG Act. Future reports will also include information on how states are prioritizing specific subpopulations with a focus on equity.

## Appendix A

### Percent of Children Below Poverty in Each State:

#### A Comparison of the Child Care and Development Fund Caseload and the General Population (FY 2018)

State	Percent of Children in General Population (Birth through 12) Below Poverty by State**	Percent of Children Receiving CCDF (Birth through 12) Below Poverty by States*
Alabama	27%	76%
Alaska	14%	30%
American Samoa	-	-
Arizona	22%	58%
Arkansas	28%	63%
California	18%	41%
Colorado	13%	51%
Connecticut	16%	33%
Delaware	19%	55%
District of Columbia	24%	46%
Florida	21%	52%
Georgia	23%	53%
Guam	-	-
Hawaii	15%	55%
Idaho	16%	65%
Illinois	18%	49%
Indiana	20%	46%
Iowa	15%	60%
Kansas	18%	62%
Kentucky	26%	65%
Louisiana	28%	60%
Maine	15%	34%
Maryland	13%	75%
Massachusetts	14%	90%
Michigan	22%	64%



<b>State</b>	<b>Percent of Children in General Population (Birth through 12) Below Poverty by State**</b>	<b>Percent of Children Receiving CCDF (Birth through 12) Below Poverty by States*</b>
Minnesota	14%	45%
Mississippi	32%	73%
Missouri	20%	66%
Montana	16%	64%
Nebraska	16%	70%
Nevada	19%	53%
New Hampshire	13%	43%
New Jersey	15%	33%
New Mexico	29%	56%
New York	21%	52%
North Carolina	23%	71%
North Dakota	10%	39%
Northern Mariana Islands	-	-
Ohio	23%	64%
Oklahoma	24%	72%
Oregon	18%	52%
Pennsylvania	19%	43%
Puerto Rico	-	-
Rhode Island	20%	55%
South Carolina	24%	72%
South Dakota	18%	56%
Tennessee	26%	60%
Texas	23%	53%
Utah	11%	43%
Vermont	12%	43%
Virgin Islands	-	-
Virginia	16%	64%
Washington	15%	38%
West Virginia	27%	56%

<b>State</b>	<b>Percent of Children in General Population (Birth through 12) Below Poverty by State**</b>	<b>Percent of Children Receiving CCDF (Birth through 12) Below Poverty by States*</b>
Wisconsin	17%	46%
Wyoming	16%	38%
Total	20%	54%

\* Percent of CCDF Children in Poverty (Based on HHS Poverty Guidelines for 2018) and Preliminary FY 2018 ACF-801 Data reported by the 50 States and District of Columbia (tabulation by the National Center on Child Care Data and Reporting staff).

\*\* American Community Survey, 2018 1-year estimates (IPUMS tabulation by ASPE staff)

**Appendix B**  
**Child Care and Development Fund**  
**Preliminary Estimates**

**Average Monthly Percentages of Children With a Disability (FY 2018)**

This table provides a snapshot of the progress States are making in meeting the new reporting requirements, and should not be used to describe the national landscape of children with disabilities receiving child care services.				
Child With a Disability Definition: Refer to footnote #7 for the definition				
State/Territory	No Disability	Has Disability	Invalid/Not Reported	Total
Alabama	100%	0%	0%	100%
Alaska	100%	0%	0%	100%
American Samoa	-	-	-	-
Arizona	100%	0%	0%	100%
Arkansas	100%	0%	0%	100%
California	0%	1%	99%	100%
Colorado	100%	0%	0%	100%
Connecticut	98%	2%	0%	100%
Delaware	98%	2%	0%	100%
District of Columbia	96%	4%	0%	100%
Florida	100%	0%	0%	100%
Georgia	0%	0%	100%	100%
Guam	100%	0%	0%	100%
Hawaii	100%	0%	0%	100%
Idaho	98%	2%	0%	100%
Illinois	99%	1%	0%	100%
Indiana	99%	1%	0%	100%
Iowa	98%	2%	0%	100%
Kansas	100%	0%	0%	100%
Kentucky	98%	1%	0%	100%
Louisiana	99%	1%	0%	100%
Maine	98%	2%	0%	100%
Maryland	97%	3%	0%	100%

<b>State/Territory</b>	<b>No Disability</b>	<b>Has Disability</b>	<b>Invalid/Not Reported</b>	<b>Total</b>
Massachusetts	99%	1%	0%	100%
Michigan	96%	4%	0%	100%
Minnesota	0%	1%	99%	100%
Mississippi	98%	2%	0%	100%
Missouri	96%	4%	0%	100%
Montana	91%	2%	7%	100%
Nebraska	73%	3%	25%	100%
Nevada	100%	0%	0%	100%
New Hampshire	99%	1%	0%	100%
New Jersey	99%	1%	0%	100%
New Mexico	99%	1%	0%	100%
New York	99%	1%	0%	100%
North Carolina	100%	0%	0%	100%
North Dakota	100%	0%	0%	100%
Northern Mariana Islands	0%	0%	100%	100%
Ohio	99%	1%	0%	100%
Oklahoma	98%	2%	0%	100%
Oregon	74%	0%	26%	100%
Pennsylvania	98%	2%	0%	100%
Puerto Rico	-	-	-	-
Rhode Island	99%	1%	0%	100%
South Carolina	94%	6%	0%	100%
South Dakota	99%	1%	0%	100%
Tennessee	100%	0%	0%	100%
Texas	98%	2%	0%	100%
Utah	100%	0%	0%	100%
Vermont	91%	9%	0%	100%
Virgin Islands	-	-	-	-
Virginia	NA	NA	NA	NA
Washington	100%	0%	0%	100%
West Virginia	100%	0%	0%	100%

State/Territory	No Disability	Has Disability	Invalid/Not Reported	Total
Wisconsin	100%	0%	0%	100%
Wyoming	100%	0%	0%	100%

Notes applicable to this table

Data as of: 21-AUG-2019

1. The source for this table is ACF-801 data for FY 2018.
2. All percentages are based on "adjusted" numbers of families and children, unless otherwise indicated. These "adjusted" numbers represent the number funded through CCDF only (which includes federal discretionary, mandatory, and matching funds; TANF transfers to CCDF; and state matching and maintenance of effort funds). The "adjusted" number is the raw or "unadjusted" number reported by the State multiplied by its pooling factor, as reported on the ACF-800. This report takes this factor into consideration in calculating the "adjusted" numbers or percentages.
3. All states provide an actual unadjusted count of families served each month. For states reporting full population data, the number of child records reported each month were directly counted. However, for states that only submit samples, the ratio of children-to-families was determined each month from the samples and then multiplied by the reported number of families to obtain an estimate of the unadjusted number of children served each month. The unadjusted average number of families and children was obtained from the monthly numbers in the FY, as reported on the ACF-801 summary (header) record.
4. A "0%" indication often means the value is less than 0.5% rather than actually zero. In a few instances, the sum of the categories may not appear to add up to exactly 100% because of rounding.
5. At the time of publication, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands had not yet reported any ACF-801 data for FY 2018. Arkansas, Guam, and Louisiana had submitted 11 months, and North Carolina had submitted 1 month. All other states and territories had submitted the full 12 months of data.
6. The Invalid/Not Reported column only includes child records with an invalid or missing number for ACF-801 element 25a, Child Disability.
7. Child with a disability is defined to include:
  - A. a child with a disability, as defined in section 602 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1401) (i.e., a child receiving special education services based on an Individualized Education Program (IEP) under Part B of IDEA);
  - B. a child who is eligible for early intervention services under part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1431 et seq.) (i.e., an infant or toddler eligible to receive early intervention services based on an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) under Part C of IDEA);
  - C. a child who is eligible for services under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794) (i.e., a child eligible to receive services under a 504 Plan); and
  - D. a child with a disability, as defined by the state involved (States have flexibility regarding part D of the definition.)
8. "-" indicates data not reported.
9. Virginia informed the Office of Child Care that they have over reported the number of children with a disability in FY 2018, as reported on the ACF-801, due to technical difficulties. Virginia is working to address this issue, and VA's data is NA (not available).

## Appendix C

### Child Care and Development Fund

#### Preliminary Estimates

#### Average Monthly Percentages of Families by Homeless Status (FY 2018)

This table provides a snapshot of the progress States are making in meeting the new reporting requirements, and should not be used to describe the national landscape of CCDF families experiencing homelessness.				
Family Homeless Status Definition: Agencies must use the term “homeless” as defined in section 725 of subtitle VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Act. See footnote #7 for the detailed description of "homeless children".				
State/Territory	Not Homeless	Homeless	Invalid/Not Reported	Total
Alabama	100%	0%	0%	100%
Alaska	79%	1%	20%	100%
American Samoa	-	-	-	-
Arizona	51%	2%	47%	100%
Arkansas	98%	2%	0%	100%
California	0%	0%	100%	100%
Colorado	98%	2%	0%	100%
Connecticut	100%	0%	0%	100%
Delaware	99%	1%	0%	100%
District of Columbia	91%	9%	0%	100%
Florida	98%	2%	0%	100%
Georgia	0%	0%	100%	100%
Guam	100%	0%	0%	100%
Hawaii	100%	0%	0%	100%
Idaho	100%	0%	0%	100%
Illinois	100%	0%	0%	100%
Indiana	88%	7%	5%	100%
Iowa	100%	0%	0%	100%
Kansas	100%	0%	0%	100%
Kentucky	100%	0%	0%	100%
Louisiana	88%	1%	11%	100%
Maine	100%	0%	0%	100%
Maryland	97%	3%	0%	100%

<b>State/Territory</b>	<b>Not Homeless</b>	<b>Homeless</b>	<b>Invalid/Not Reported</b>	<b>Total</b>
Massachusetts	97%	3%	0%	100%
Michigan	99%	1%	0%	100%
Minnesota	77%	8%	15%	100%
Mississippi	100%	0%	0%	100%
Missouri	99%	1%	0%	100%
Montana	90%	2%	9%	100%
Nebraska	84%	1%	14%	100%
Nevada	88%	3%	9%	100%
New Hampshire	90%	10%	0%	100%
New Jersey	99%	1%	0%	100%
New Mexico	99%	1%	0%	100%
New York	100%	0%	0%	100%
North Carolina	100%	0%	0%	100%
North Dakota	99%	1%	0%	100%
Northern Mariana Islands	0%	0%	100%	100%
Ohio	99%	1%	0%	100%
Oklahoma	100%	0%	0%	100%
Oregon	100%	0%	0%	100%
Pennsylvania	82%	0%	18%	100%
Puerto Rico	-	-	-	-
Rhode Island	100%	0%	0%	100%
South Carolina	95%	5%	0%	100%
South Dakota	98%	2%	0%	100%
Tennessee	100%	0%	0%	100%
Texas	98%	2%	0%	100%
Utah	96%	4%	0%	100%
Vermont	98%	2%	0%	100%
Virgin Islands	-	-	-	-
Virginia	99%	1%	0%	100%
Washington	94%	6%	0%	100%
West Virginia	100%	0%	0%	100%

<b>State/Territory</b>	<b>Not Homeless</b>	<b>Homeless</b>	<b>Invalid/Not Reported</b>	<b>Total</b>
Wisconsin	99%	1%	0%	100%
Wyoming	99%	1%	0%	100%

Notes applicable to this report:

Data as of: 21-AUG-2019

1. The source for this table is ACF-801 data for FY 2018.
2. All percentages are based on "adjusted" numbers of families and children, unless otherwise indicated. These "adjusted" numbers represent the number funded through CCDF only (which includes federal discretionary, mandatory, and matching funds; TANF transfers to CCDF; and state matching and maintenance of effort funds). The "adjusted" number is the raw or "unadjusted" number reported by the state multiplied by its pooling factor, as reported on the ACF-800. This report takes this factor into consideration in calculating the "adjusted" numbers or percentages.
3. All states provide an actual unadjusted count of families served each month. For states reporting full population data, the number of child records reported each month was directly counted. However, for states that only submit samples, the ratio of children-to-families was determined each month from the samples and then multiplied by the reported number of families to obtain an estimate of the unadjusted number of children served each month. The unadjusted average number of families and children was obtained from the monthly numbers in the FY, as reported on the ACF-801 summary (header) record.
4. A "0%" indication often means the value is less than 0.5% rather than actually zero. In a few instances, the sum of the categories may not appear to add up to exactly 100% because of rounding.
5. At the time of publication, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands had not yet reported any ACF-801 data for FY 2018. Arkansas, Guam, and Louisiana had submitted 11 months, and North Carolina had submitted 1 month. All other states and Territories had submitted the full 12 months of data.
6. The Invalid/Not Reported column only includes family records with an invalid or missing number for ACF-801 element 16a, Family Homeless Status.
7. Agencies must use the term homeless as defined in section 725 of subtitle VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Act. The term "homeless children and youths" refers to individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and includes the following four categories:
  1. Children and youth who:
    - a) share the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason;
    - b) are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative accommodations;
    - c) are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or
    - d) are abandoned in hospitals.
  2. Children and youth who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.
  3. Children and youth who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings.
  4. Children of migrant or seasonal workers who qualify as homeless because they are living in circumstances described in the first three categories.
8. "-" indicates data not reported.